

Application No.: 09/704179

Docket No.: SMQ-038RCE/P5129

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 5-18 and 35-36 are currently pending of which claims 1 and 35 are independent.

Rejections Pursuant to 35. U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-2, 5-18, and 35-36 were rejected as being unpatentable over Nawaz et al (United States Patent Number 6, 421, 694, hereafter "Nawaz") in view of Davidson et al (United States Patent Number 6,246, 693, hereafter "Davidson"), and further in view of Ishibashi et al (United States Patent Number 6,360, 152, hereafter "Ishibashi"). For the reasons set forth below, those rejections are respectfully traversed.

Summary of Claimed Invention

The claimed invention addresses the display limitations encountered in prioritizing and displaying messages received from multiple network devices. The claimed invention provides a priority messaging protocol that enables a display device to prioritize the messages received from multiple network devices and allows the display device to communicate with the network devices over the network. The priority messaging protocol is used to register each network device with the display device. A priority message queue for each registered device is created on the display device. Each priority message queue is assigned a priority by the display apparatus based on the identity of the network device. All messages received from a network device are placed in the priority message queue associated with the network device. Each message is further sorted within the priority message queue based on a priority level encoded in the message by the sending device and identified by the display device. Messages are displayed based first on the priority between the respective message queues and then by priority within the message queue. The claimed invention also provides two-way communication between the network device and the display device that enables the retrieval of message status information by the network device.

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Summary of Nawaz et al

Nawaz discusses a system for showing a dynamically changing ticker on a desktop. The ticker includes data from a number of different sources including various network sources. Data is displayed in a substantially continuous sequence on the desktop in a ticker pane in a windowing environment. Nawaz also provides the ability to handle a high priority email differently from regular emails.

Summary of Davidson et al

Davidson et al discusses a simplex (one-way) communication system between a user and a host computer utilizing at least one repeater device. The system is directed towards a one way packet communication channel with re-transmissions to ensure that data sent in the simplex communication system arrives at its destination. Davidson et al discusses the retransmission of a received message at pre-determined intervals in a one way communication system where other techniques such as time-division multiplexing are unavailable. Davidson et al does discuss the use of a priority queue for sorting messages based on a priority assigned by the originator of the message and identified by the repeater (see col. 16, lines 45-57). Messages assigned to the priority queue are handled on a FIFO (First In First Out) basis (see Col. 16, lines 52-53 and col. 18, lines 47-50) at the repeater. Davidson et al does not discuss creation of priority message queues based on the identity of the network device or the use of a priority message queue by a display device.

Summary of Ishibashi et al

Ishibashi describes a vehicle control communication system used to connect different vehicle operating nodes to each other. For example, different nodes exist for engine control, automatic control, throttle control, anti-lock brake system control, traction system control etc. A scheduler node includes a communication processing section which facilitates communication among the various nodes in the motor vehicle. The communication processing section manages requests to transmit by referring to a node construction table and transmission control table. The

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node construction table assigns priorities to messages received from different nodes. The node construction table also includes the necessary bandwidth for time division transmissions. The transmission control table identifies the node, includes the transmission cycle allocated to each node for its required bandwidth, the transmission history of the node, and the node status. Ishibashi does not discuss the use of a display manager or a priority message queue on a display device.

Argument

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of the recent telephone interviews. Applicant respectfully suggests that the combination of references submitted by the Examiner fails to teach or suggest all of the elements of Applicant's independent claims as amended herein. Applicant has amended the independent claims to clarify that a plurality of separate priority message queues are created on the display device with each priority message queue corresponding to a registered network device. As set forth in detail in previous responses, the combination of references fails to disclose these limitations as none of the references show multiple priority message queues on a display device that correspond to separate registered network devices. Accordingly, Applicants believe that all of the pending claims are currently in condition for allowance.

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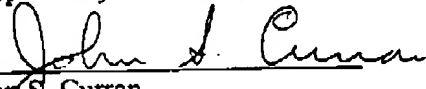
CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks and Amendment, Applicant believes all of the claims in the pending application are in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes a three month extension of time fee is due with this statement. However, if an additional fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 12-0080, under Order No. SMQ-038RCE from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: December 16, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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